

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

SAM-01 IO-10 OMB-01 /069 W
----- 034425

R 120348Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6364

INFO FBIS OKINAWA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: RED FLAG CALL FOR UNITY--- REGIME CONCERNED OVER LEADERSHIP

IN ACTION

REF: HONG KONG 6402

1. ALTHOUGH AN APPEAL FOR UNITY IS NOT NOVEL, CHING YEN'S
AUGUST RED FLAG CALL FOR PARTY UNITY GOES A STEP FURTHER
AND INVOKES THE NECESSITY FOR A NEW ROUND OF CRITICISM TO
SHAKE LEADERSHIP CADRES BACK INTO ACTION, WITH CRITICISM
ITSELF THE MEANS OF FORGING
GREATER UNITY. KEEPING IN MIND THE DISRUPTIVE
POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING OF THE PAST, THIS NASCENT CRITICISM
REMAINS COUCHED IN CAUTIOUS AND NON-INFLAMMATOR LANGUAGE
WITH THE GOAL OF CORRECTING MISTAKES AND "CURING" DEVIATIONS
FROM PARTY LINE.

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2. THE ARTICLE, GIVEN WIDE CIRCULATION BY PEKING RADIO AND PEOPLE'S DAILY (AUGUST 8), IS DIRECTED AT PARTY CADRES AND PARTICULARLY PARTY LEADERSHIP GROUPS WHICH HAVE BECOME AN INCREASING AREA OF CONCERN FOR THE CENTER IN RECENT WEEKS. LEADERSHIP CADRES NOT TAKING ACTION IS DEFINED IN THAT ARTICLE AS THE RESULT OF CADRES SUCCUMBING TO THE LURES OF THE "BOURGEOIS LIFESTYLE" AND THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN "BOURGEOIS FACTIONALISM"--- BOTH PRESCRIBED TARGETS FOR CRITICISM IN THE CURRENT DICTATORSHIP CAMPAIGN.

3. WHAT MORE SPECIFICALLY WORRIES THE REGIME, HOWEVER, IS THAT SOME CADRES HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN EXCUSING THEIR INACTIVITY IN THE DICTATORSHIP CAMPAIGN "FOR FEAR OF AFFECTING PARTY UNITY". IN PART, THIS COULD IMPLY THAT INDIVIDUALS ARE TRYING TO KEEP THE "BOURGEOIS" TAR FROM SMEARING THEMSELVES. BUT, PERHAPS EVEN MORE SERIOUS THAN THE CADRES EFFORT TO AVOID CRITICISM OF THEMSELVES, IS THE NAGGING SUSPICION THAT MUCH OF THE CADRES' INACTION IS CAUSED BY THEIR DESIRE NOT TO BE CAUGHT IN ANY MORE POLITICAL CROSSFIRES. VIEWING THE DICTATORSHIP CAMPAIGN AS JUST ONE MORE VAGUELY DEFINED CAMPAIGN WHICH COULD LEAVE THEM WHIPSAWED FOR MOVING TOO QUICKLY ONE WAY OR THE OTHER ON RESTRICTING BOURGEOIS RIGHTS, THE CADRES HAVE TRIED TO REMAIN ALOOF AND AVOID COMMITTING THEMSELVES UNTIL THE LINES WERE DRAWN MORE CLEARLY. THIS NEW CALL FROM PEKING PROVIDES NO CLEARER DEFINITION OF HOW TO PROCEED WITH DICTATORSHIP AND IS LIKELY TO GIVE CADRES LITTLE COMFORT AND A GOOD DEAL MORE HEADACHES.

CROSS

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Message Attributes

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